

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A vertical boat for heat treatment comprising:

a top ~~plate; plate;~~

a bottom ~~plate;plate;~~ and

a plurality of column members fixed between the top plate and the bottom plate, a plurality of grooves being formed in each the column member so as to create, ~~and a~~ supporting part for horizontally supporting a wafer-like body to be treated ~~being formed~~ between the grooves, and

wherein each column member of the plurality of column members, ~~as the column member, two or more column members, each of which~~ has a circular arc-shaped cross section and is cylindrically disposed,

wherein each column member of the plurality of column members ~~and has the~~ supporting parts in the shape of circular arc ~~formed, the supporting parts and the column member being a monolithic piece of a same material integrally inside by formation of the~~ grooves, ~~are cylindrically disposed, and~~

wherein the wafer-like body to be treated is inserted from the grooves of the column members and supported along a circumferential part of a lower surface thereof by the respective circular arc-shaped supporting parts.

12. (Currently Amended) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 11, wherein; the plurality of column members includes two column members that are oppositely disposed, the two column members as the column member, two column

~~members having~~ including the circular arc-shaped supporting parts each of which has a center angle of 60° to 170° ~~are oppositely disposed.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 11, wherein, the plurality of column members includes as the column member, three or more column members having the circular arc-shaped supporting parts each of which has a center angle of 20° to 100° ~~are disposed.~~

14. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 11, wherein the column members are provided with a vent at the same height as each of the grooves.

15. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 12, wherein the column members are provided with a vent at the same height as each of the grooves.

16. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 13, wherein the column members are provided with a vent at the same height as each of the grooves.

17. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 14, wherein the vertical boat for heat treatment is for heat treatment of a silicon wafer.

18. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 15, wherein the vertical boat for heat treatment is for heat treatment of a silicon wafer.

19. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 16, wherein the vertical boat for heat treatment is for heat treatment of a silicon wafer.

20. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 14, wherein an edge of a supporting surface of the supporting part is chamfered.

21. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 15, wherein an edge of a supporting surface of the supporting part is chamfered.

22. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 16, wherein an edge of a supporting surface of the supporting part is chamfered.

23. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 14, wherein the supporting surface of the supporting part is downward sloped in the direction of the inside.

24. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 15, wherein the supporting surface of the supporting part is downward sloped in the direction of the inside.

25. (Previously Presented) The vertical boat for heat treatment according to Claim 16, wherein the supporting surface of the supporting part is downward sloped in the direction of the inside.

26. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a vertical boat for heat treatment of horizontally supported wafers which comprises a top plate, a bottom plate, and a column member fixed between the top plate and the bottom plate, ~~and is for horizontally supporting a wafer-like body to be treated, wherein the method comprises comprising:~~

~~a step of~~ manufacturing column members, each of which has a circular arc-shaped cross section and has a larger outside radius and a smaller inside radius than a radius of the body to be ~~treated~~, treated;

~~a step of~~ cylindrically disposing two or more said column members between the top plate and the bottom plate to fix the column ~~members~~, members; and

~~a step of~~ forming grooves in each of the column members so as to create ~~and at the same time forming~~ circular arc-shaped supporting parts for supporting in the inside thereof a wafer-like body to be treated along a circumferential part of its lower surface, and the supporting parts and the column member being formed as a monolithic piece of a same

~~material in the inside of thereof the body to be treated along a circumferential part of its lower surface.~~

27. (Currently Amended) A method for producing ~~the a~~ vertical boat for heat treatment ~~according to Claim 11 parts, wherein, the method comprises~~ comprising:

~~a step of~~ cylindrically disposing two or more said column members having a circular arc-shaped cross section between ~~the a~~ top plate and ~~the a~~ bottom plate to fix the column ~~members,~~ members;

~~a step of~~ cutting the column members from ~~the a~~ direction to insert the body to be treated thereby to form ~~the~~ grooves and at the same time to form ~~the~~ circular arc-shaped supporting parts in the inside ~~thereof,~~ thereof; and

~~a step of~~ cutting the column members from ~~the a~~ different second direction different from the direction, the column members being cut at the same height thereby to pass it through ~~form~~ throughholes within each column member.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for producing ~~the a~~ vertical boat for heat treatment, ~~the~~ according to Claim 11, wherein the method comprises comprising:

~~a step of~~ preparing column members each of which has a circular arc-shaped cross section and has a beam ~~outside,~~ outside;

~~a step of~~ cylindrically disposing two or more said column members between ~~the a~~ top plate and ~~the a~~ bottom plate to fix the column ~~members,~~ members; and

~~a step of, by using a circumferential blade which has a radius larger than an inside radius of the column members and smaller than an outside radius of a part to be said beam,~~ cutting each of the column members with a cutting unit from ~~the a~~ direction to insert ~~the a~~ body to be treated thereby to form ~~the~~ grooves, at the same time to form the circular arc-shaped supporting parts in the inside thereof, and further to pass through the other parts than ~~the beam-beam,~~ the cutting unit having a circumferential blade which has a radius larger than

an inside radius of the column members and smaller than an outside radius of a part to be said beam.